

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Once Amended) A wire termination device for providing a demarcation with subscriber lines comprising:

- a) a base having a plurality of subscriber terminals and a telephone jack having jack contacts for interconnection with the subscriber terminals;
- b) a moveable cover associated with the base to be selectively closed thereon; and
- c) a conductive contact provided on the cover that is disposed within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, the conductive contact having a portion that electrically connects with the jack contacts when the cover is closed, the conductive contact also being accessible from the exterior of the cover for providing a test contact against which a test probe may be placed to detect electrical connections established by the wire termination device while the cover is closed.

4. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein the conductive contact comprises:

a bypass contact that is disposed upon an outer surface of the prong portion and positioned to avoid contact with the jack contact; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member therein that is engaged by the bypass contact when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to the jack contact.

5. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein the conductive contact comprises:

a metallic strip disposed along a side of the prong portion and having an outwardly biased portion; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member on a lateral sidewall that is engaged by the metallic strip when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to the jack contact.

6. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 1 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein the conductive contact extends to a lower side of the prong portion and is positioned to physically contact the jack contact when the cover is in the closed position.
7. (Once Amended) A wire termination device comprising:
 - a) a base having a telephone jack with tip and ring contacts for establishing a telephone wiring connection;
 - b) a cover hingedly secured to the base to be selectively closed and opened thereupon; and
 - c) a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover to be received within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, each being recessed within a cavity that is open to the exterior of the cover for providing a test contact against which a test probe may be placed to detect an electrical signal indicative of the telephone wiring connection established by the wire termination device, each conductive contact having a conductive portion for making an electrical connection with one of the tip and ring contacts while the cover is in a closed position.
8. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises a metallic strip extending upwardly from the prong portion of the plug assembly to present the test contact proximate an upper portion of the plug assembly.
9. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises:
 - a bypass contact that is disposed upon an outer surface of the prong portion and positioned to avoid contact with the tip and ring contacts; and
 - wherein the jack has a pair of conductive members therein that are engaged by the bypass contacts when the cover is closed, the conductive members being electrically connected to the tip and ring contacts.

10. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises: a metallic strip disposed along a side of the prong portion and having an outwardly biased portion; and

wherein the jack has a conductive member on a lateral sidewall that is engaged by the metallic strip when the cover is closed, the conductive member being electrically connected to the jack contact.

11. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises:

a flexible metallic strip having a contacting portion that is biased outwardly from a lateral side of the prong portion.

12. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 7 wherein the cover comprises a plug assembly having a prong portion and wherein each of the conductive contacts comprises:

an electrically conductive member that extends to a lower side of the prong portion and is positioned to physically contact the tip and ring contacts when the cover is in the closed position.

13. (Once Amended) A wire termination device comprising:

a base having a subscriber terminal assembly thereupon;

a jack containing tip and ring contacts for establishing electrical connections with the subscriber terminal assembly;

a movable cover for the base, the cover having a plug portion that is removably inserted into the jack when the cover is closed onto the base; and

a pair of conductive contacts provided on the cover, each of the conductive contacts being electrically interconnected with the subscriber terminal assembly and presenting a test contact extending through the cover for placement of a test probe thereon.

15. (Once Amended) The wire termination device of claim 13 further comprising a pair of test probe access holes in the cover to permit the test probe to contact each test contact.

18. (Once Amended) A wire termination device comprising:

- a) a base having a telephone jack thereupon for establishing a telephone wiring connection;
- b) a cover associated with the base to be selectively closed thereon; and
- c) means for transmitting a signal indicative of the telephone wiring connection, the means for transmitting a signal accessible through the cover while the cover is closed onto the base.

Please add new claim 24 as follows:

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--24. A wire termination device comprising:

- a base having subscriber terminals and a telephone jack disposed thereon, the jack having jack contacts for electrical connection with the subscriber terminals;
- a cover movably attached to the base to be selectively closed thereon; and
- conductive contacts provided on the cover that are disposed within the jack when the cover is closed onto the base, the conductive contacts having a first portion that extends outwardly from the cover and electrically connects with the jack contacts in the jack when the cover is closed and a second portion opposite the first portion that extends through the cover to define a test probe and electrically connects with the subscriber terminals on the base.--
